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12 July 1954.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Request for IAC Estimates in support of the NSC
Capabilities Evaluation SubCommittee.

1. A Net Capabilities Evaluation SubCommittee of the NSC is undertaking the assessment of the Net Capabilities of the USSR, in the event of general war, to inflict direct injury upon the Continental US and key US installations overseas through 1 July 1957.

2. Two estimates are urgently required:

a. A special national intelligence estimate of the "Maximum Soviet Gross Capabilities for Attacks on the U.S. and Key Overseas Installations through Mid 1957". (This should cover the same ground as SNIE 11-2-54 and in addition, should cover "key U.S. installations overseas." The Subcommittee will provide guidance as to the general categories and location of the installations to be considered in this estimate.) The completed estimate is desired not later than 16 August.

b. A special national intelligence estimate of "Probable degree of warning from U.S. and Allied efforts in the event of Soviet surprise attacks on the U.S. and key U.S. installations overseas as of 1 July 1957." (IAC agencies should undertake this estimate using as an assumption the scale of Soviet attack contained in the SNIE requested in a. above). This estimate is desired not later than 14 September.

H. R. Hull
Vice Chairman
Board of National Estimates
O.N.E.

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